

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

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Bloomfield Public Schools.

Following is the report in full by the Teachers' Committee, to which was referred the investigation of the charges preferred by Mr. Charles M. Davis against Mr. John B. Dunbar, Principal of the Bloomfield Public Schools.

THE TRUSTEES OF BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL, DISTRICT NO. 7, ESSEX COUNTY, N. J.

STATEMENT:

The Committee to which was assigned the duty of making a report relative to the charges made by Mr. Charles M. Davis against Mr. John B. Dunbar, Principal of the Public Schools, respectfully say that they have called upon Mr. John G. Broughton and Miss Eliza B. Whipple, as directed. That the whole of the charges and specifications have been minutely examined in accordance with the resolutions passed at the annual meeting of the citizens of the district, and in their judgment the charges are frivolous and unsustained. Several of the witnesses named by Mr. Davis say that he distinctly refused the use of his name when applied to by him, and have voluntarily written to the Trustees denying the alleged facts and the charges drawn, and expressed their names not in sympathy with the charges.

The statements of others appear to be distorted reports by school children, or sources which could have been explained, and were unworthy of the honest man of the Principal, expressing as they do thus voluntarily, their loving and grateful appreciation of his efforts and testifying that "we merit more courtesy from our teacher's than we do from any other."

Mr. Dunbar replies: "In personal relations with pupils my numerous duties are so constant and pressing that I have no time for immediate personal contact with the pupils, and this has been a source of daily regret to me. Still not a day passes in which I do not find time to approach pupils individually with reference to their studies. This I am especially careful to do in cases of pupils who are in any way troublesome or behind in studies."

Confirmatory of this are letters signed by all of the pupils in the High School save three, and the seven members of the Graduating Class of 1888. These have a marked bearing on the alleged harsh and violent manner of the Principal, expressing as they do thus voluntarily, their loving and grateful appreciation of his efforts and testifying that "we merit more courtesy from our teacher's than we do from any other."

The unsolicited testimony of Mr. H. L. Johnson, Mr. B. Haskell, Mr. William Cadmus and Mr. F. M. Hinkle is particularly gratifying to them as trustees, especially that which gives evidence of the careful and watchful supervision of the Principal over the scholars outside of the school property, and the good conduct and careful respect shown by the scholars for the comfort and property of the adjacent residents. Other testimony is to the fact that never has there been less annoyance to or disturbance of the neighbors from the school.

Your Committee see no reason for not according to Mr. Dunbar the reconfidence of the Board of Trustees, in him as a man, a disciplinarian and a teacher.

EDWARD A. SMITH,
FREDERICK H. PILCH.

PROCLAMATION CONCERNING DOGS IN THE TOWNSHIP OF BLOOMFIELD.

The Township Committee of the township of Bloomfield, in the County of Essex, and myself, Township Clerk of the said township, being of the opinion that the public welfare requires that the dogs of the Township of Bloomfield, and the said Township Clerk, by the advice of the said Township Committee, do hereby authorize the destruction by any person or persons, of all dogs, male and female, and their progeny, which shall be found passing through the town, accompanied by the owner or owners, of such dog or dogs.

Dated at Bloomfield, N. J., this 28th day of May, 1889.

EDWARD F. FARRAND,
Township Clerk.

Fairview Dairy.

PURE JERSEY MILK

SUPPLIED NIGHT OR MORNING.

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MICHAEL DUGGAN.

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C. L. WARD & SON,

BLOOMFIELD AVENUE.

John B. DUNBAR,
N. J., May 29, 1889.

Some excellent teachers, for this lack of harmony and duty, have left the school."

Miss Petrie, Miss Wilson, and ex-chairman of the Committee, writes denying the reasons alleged.

With the knowledge of the Board of Trustees that this statement of

Miss Margaret S. Knowlson

applied for a position as teacher at Mount Vernon, N. Y. The Principal wrote for information concerning her to Mr. Dunbar, who wrote back the influence of Miss Knowlson in the school and with her children had been bad and for this reason he had refused to give her a recommendation.

Reference. Mr. John W. Duncan and Mr. Edward G. Ward. Mr. Ward writes: "Mr. Davis has used my name without permission, or my knowledge. I have had no conversation or communication whatever on the subject with either Mr. Davis or Miss Knowlson. I have no criticism to make." We are also informed that Mr. Duncan's name was used without authority. Mr. Dunbar rightly says: "I do not see, however, that the master can rightfully claim any consideration here."

Charge 4th. "The High School Department over which he (Mr. Dunbar) presides, presents but few attractions to the boys who reach it. Many of them leave school at this period rather than be subjected to the treatment which they know awaits them, and of which they have already had a foretaste in the Grammar School."

Not a single case is given save that of Wilson Lyon, and it is not credited by your Committee that there is another such case.

The fact that a majority of boys leave the school before graduating is not peculiar to Bloomfield, but is invariable in similar schools elsewhere and is easily accounted for without violently distorting that fact to the injury of our school or the prejudice of the teachers in the school.

Charge 5th. With the "wayward," "obstinate," "fering," "those whose minds work slowly and illogically," and those of "delicate and sensitive natures," Mr. Dunbar "does not seem to have any sympathy."

Mr. Dunbar replies: "In personal relations with pupils my numerous duties are so constant and pressing that I have no time for immediate personal contact with the pupils, and this has been a source of daily regret to me. Still not a day passes in which I do not find time to approach pupils individually with reference to their studies. This I am especially careful to do in cases of pupils who are in any way troublesome or behind in studies."

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